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JANUARY

THE NIGHTS OF PENDRAGON

REVELATIONS

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'LET NONE ADMIRE
THAT RICHES GROWN IN HELL;
THAT SOIL MAY BEST DESERVE
THE PRECIOUS BANE.'

John Milton
PARADISE LOST

'THE VOICES ARE BACK,
AND I THINK THAT I'M GOD...'
David Wall, John Wall
THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL
WORLD OF

FORTUNE
A BEN GALLAGHER NOVEL
FLAME IN THE WEST



MISTER
GALLAGHER IS
HERE TO SEE YOU
NOW, MISTER
MEYER.

SEND HIM
IN, ANDREA. THEN
CALL FOR THE
POLICE.











MORRISTON
CRESCENT,
LONDON. 7:23 PM.



COMMANDER
THOMAS: GOOD
TO HAVE YOU
BACK, SIR...

WISH I COULD SAY
I WAS GLAD TO ~~SEE~~
BACK. BUT BACK—BUT
IT'S DEPRESSING AS
HELL, SAME AS THE
OTHERS?



WORSE. IT'S THE
JIGSAW MAN! ALL
RIGHT—YOU SHOULD'VE
SEEN THAT MESS.
KENNELS'LL FILL
YOU IN.



SAME M.O.
AS THE
OTHERS?

TOO RIGHT. LOOKS LIKE
SHE FELL INTO A BLIMMIN'
COMBINE 'ARVESTER.
IT'D BE EASIER TO EXAMINE
A BOWL OF SOUP.

I'M GUESSING OF
COURSE, BUT I RECKON
SHE'S ANOTHER CAREER
WOMAN, MID-TO-LATE
THIRTIES.

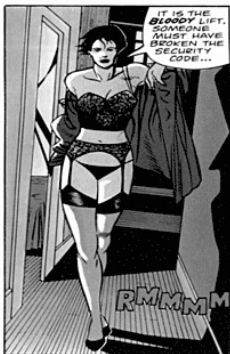
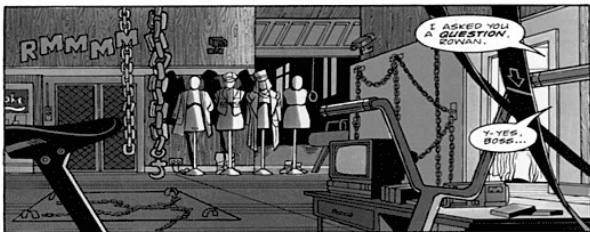


IF IT'S LIKE THE OTHERS,
WE'LL ALSO FIND BLOOD,
SEMEN AND TISSUE SAMPLES
FROM THE KILLER. THE SICK
GIT'S NOT SHY.













SAY IT,
SAY IT.

THAT BITCH MCLELLAN
SENT YOU, DIDN'T SHE? I'LL EAT
HER ALIVE! I'LL—AAAAHH—!
CHRIST PLEASE IT HURRTS!



YOUR PAIN
IS BUT THE
BREAKING OF
THE SHELL
ENCLOSING
YOUR
UNDERSTANDING.

EMBRACE
THE PAIN AND
CALL US YOUR
SISTERS.



EMBRACE!

PLEASE—
MAKE IT—
STOOOPP!



FEEL THE
PAIN, GRACE. FEEL
IT WRITE AND
GROW IN YOUR
BELLY.

IT IS POWER,
GRACE! YOUR POWER,
FORGED IN THE
CRUCIBLE HEAT OF
PUREST AGONY!

UUU-UGGK—



BOSS?
GRACE? YOU GONNA
BE LONG OUT
THERE?







IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU BOTH AGAIN. TRUTH TO TELL, I JUST DON'T GET MANY VISITORS...

MARRIED TO THE JOB, I SUPPOSE. I WAS IN LIBYA FOR THE REAGAN / GHADAFI SHOWDOWN... ON HOLIDAY IN HONG KONG WHEN TIENANMEN SQUARE BROKE OUT. SEEMS I'VE A NATURAL AFFINITY FOR DISASTER.

FUNNY—FOR SOME REASON, MY FRIENDS STOPPED INVITING ME ROUND FOR DINNER...



DAI, YOU'VE HARDLY CRACKED A SMILE ALL NIGHT. I KNOW THE VEGGIE LASAGNE WAS A BIT GRIM, BUT—

FOOD WAS GREAT, SORRY, KATE. IT'S THIS BLOODY CASE—THE 'JIGSAW MAN' KILLINGS.



VIOLENT CRIME AGAINST WOMEN IN LONDON IS UP ONE HUNDRED PERCENT ON LAST YEAR'S FIGURES. THEY'RE EVEN TALKING ABOUT SEGREGATED TUBE CARRIAGES NOW—IT'S BLOODY CRAZY.



'THE 'JIGSAW' VICTIMS—ALL CAREER WOMEN, RIGHT?

YEP, BRIGHT, SUCCESSFUL—AND A THREAT TO A CERTAIN KIND OF WEAK, PARANOID MALE EGO. SHOW THE LIPKIT BITCH HER PLACE IS OUR KILLER'S MESSAGE TO FRIEND.



IT'D BE FUNNY IF IT WASN'T SO DAMNED TRAGIC.



NO-ONE IS SAFE. NO-ONE.





"...FOR THE LAST
FEW YEARS, HE'S
BEEN CALLING
HIMSELF DOLPH."



JUST A FAT
WELSH GIT. THAT'S
WHAT I KEPT TELLING
MYSELF. JUST A
BURNED-OUT FAT
WELSH GIT. BUT YOU
SHOULD'VE SEEN HIM!

SO THEN THE CASTRATING
BITCH **RIES** ME. JUST
LIKE THAT. SAYS I'M
AN EXPERIMENT THAT
FAILED.

HOW LONG D'WE
HAVETAE LISSEN
TAE THIS CRAP?
SHUSS THA HELL
UP...



HE **CREAMED** US.
BABE, MATT, KENT—ALL
OF US PACKING ENOUGH
FORM TO LEVEL CUBA
AND HE WIPED US OUT!



GOD, SHE **LOVES** IT.
STELLING AROUND THAT
OFFICE LIKE SHE'S LADY
MUCK OF TUD MOUNTAIN.
BITCH.



DOESN'T MATTER.
I'VE GOT LOTS OF
DEALS COOKING. **LOTS**
OF DEALS.







GRACE, LOOK!
LOOK HOW **STRONG**
I AM! OH **PLEASE**
LET'S GO OUT... I
WANT TO **HURT**
SOMEONE...



LIRRK!

YOU **DRAT**, THE
POWER TO SPLIT
CONTINENTS COURSE
THROUGH YOU, AND
YOU CAN'T SEE
FURTHER THAN YOUR
OWN SO-DID-LITTLE
PERVERSIONS.



STANDING
ON A WHALE,
FISHING FOR
MINNOWS.

THE POWER OF THE
DARK GODDESS — OF
WINTER AND WARFARE —
THE POWER OF THE **BANE** —
IT'S **OURS**.



OMNI WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING —
I SEE THAT NOW. WE'VE AN
EMPIRE TO BUILD. AN ARMY OF
REEVERS TO RAZE THIS
BENIGHTED PLANET ON WINGS
OF FLAME. AND **FEAST** ON
ITS LIFELESS HUSK.



I ALWAYS **WAS**
AMBITIOUS.



EPILOGUE.

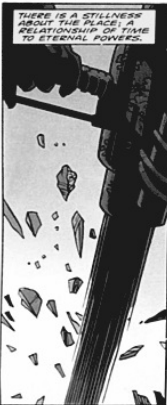
JOSELITO IN NORTHERN SPAIN IS A SACRED PLACE. THE MYSTERY OF ANCIENT RITUAL STILL TRICKLES LIKE SMOKE OVER ITS SUN-BLEACHED CONTOURS.



TO VISIT THE HILLS ABOVE THE TOWN, UNCHANGED FOR COUNTLESS GENERATIONS, IS TO KNOW THE PRIGAN BEAUTY OF JOSELITO.



THERE IS A STILLNESS ABOUT THE PLACE; A RELATIONSHIP OF TIME TO ETERNAL POWERS.



IT IS A PLACE WHERE CIVILIZATION STOPPED; WHERE THE RELENTLESS MARCH OF PROGRESS GAVE PAUSE...



... A LANDSCAPE OF THE SOUL.



STARK INDUSTRIES
WELCOMES THE
OMNI CORPORATION TO
JOSELITO.

THAT IS ABOUT
TO CHANGE.